

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 2, a tube-shaped catheter component (e.g., sheath 140, hypotube 160, midshaft 150, distal outer 170, or distal inner 180) has an inner ~~diameter~~ radius ( $R_i$ ), an outer ~~diameter~~ radius ( $R_o$ ), and a wall thickness ( $R_o - R_i$ ).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

In certain embodiments, the tube-shaped catheter component (e.g., sheath 140, hypotube 160, midshaft 150, distal outer 170, distal inner 180) has a tensile strength of at least about 21,000 pounds per square inch (psi) (e.g., at least about 22,500 psi, at least about 25,000 psi, at least about 27,500 psi, at least about 30,000 psi). As referred to herein, the tensile strength of a tube-shaped catheter component is determined by dividing the load at break of the tube-shaped catheter component by the cross-sectional area of the tube-shaped catheter component, where the cross-sectional area of the tube-shaped catheter component is equal to  $\pi(R_o - R_i)^2$   $\pi(R_o^2 - R_i^2)$ .